



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton
National Park

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Grand Teton National Park News Release

Grand Teton National Park Recruits for 2009 Youth Conservation Program

Grand Teton National Park Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott announced today that thanks to generous donations made through the Grand Teton National Park Foundation (GTNPF), the park will continue its Youth Conservation Program (YCP) this summer. The park plans to recruit for approximately 15-20 short-term positions through this exciting program. Applications must be postmarked by March 27, 2009.

The YCP is a summer employment program for high school students ages 16 to 19. YCP enrollees will develop an understanding of National Park Service (NPS) conservation ethics as they assist with critically-needed maintenance and rehabilitation on park trails and pathways. Participants will work alongside NPS crew leaders and become familiar with NPS stewardship goals while learning essential trail maintenance skills. YCP participants may also answer basic visitor questions and serve as park ambassadors while they complete project work on some of the most visible, and most impacted, park trails (i.e. Taggart, Bradley, Jenny and String lakes, and trails in the vicinity of Jackson Lake Lodge and Colter Bay).

YCP crews will focus their efforts on projects dealing with rehabilitation of trails and backcountry areas through activities such as brushing, hazard tree removal, and construction of water bars and drainage swales. In addition to the project work, environmental education programs will be offered, as well as extensive recreational opportunities.

The 2009 YCP program will run for ten weeks, from June 22 through August 27. Participants must live locally (as housing is not provided) and be at least 16 years of age by June 22. The program will include 3 work crews with 5-6 YCP trail members. Wages will be set at \$10.20 per hour. Applicants must be students in good standing and United States citizens. Qualifications also include good team skills, a willingness to learn about Grand Teton National Park and its trail system, and the ability to work at a physically demanding job which may involve lifting 30-40 pounds.

The GTNPF will provide funding for salaries, work boots, work pants, trail tee-shirts, and free transportation to and from Jackson for YCP participants. The Foundation raises private funds for new and innovative projects that add value to the park. For more information about the Foundation, or to support the future of the YCP in Grand Teton National Park, please call (307) 732-0629, or contact Leslie Mattson-Emerson at leslie@gtnpf.org.

For further information about YCP summer 2009, or to obtain an application, please contact Brian Bergsma at Grand Teton National Park by calling (307) 739-3364, or write to YCP Program, GTNP, Drawer 170, Moose, WY 83012. Applications are also available on the park's web site at <http://www.nps.gov/grte/misc/ycp.htm> . Completed applications must be mailed to the park address by March 20, 2009.

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www.nps.gov/grte